

**Virginia Board of Education  
High School Graduation Rates  
September 27, 2006  
1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**James Monroe Building  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Jefferson Conference Room  
Richmond, Virginia**

**Committee Members Present:** Mr. Andrew Rotherham, Co-Chair, Dr. Ella Ward, Co-Chair, Dr. Mark Emblidge, Dr. Thomas Brewster, Mrs. Isis Castro, Dr. Billy Cannaday

**Purpose of Meeting:** To hear an overview of the various calculations used to estimate graduation rates.

**Summary of Committee Meeting:**

1. Welcome from Dr. Emblidge
2. Statement of the purpose of the meeting, Mr. Rotherham and Dr. Ward
3. Ms. Bethann Canada, director, Educational Information Management, Virginia Department of Education, presented an overview of the various calculations used to estimate graduation rates.
  - a. What data are already collected for each student
  - b. The factors that influence the graduation rate
  - c. Various graduation rate calculations
    - i. Virginia NCLB rate
    - ii. Virginia Unadjusted rate
    - iii. NCES Averaged Freshmen rate
    - iv. Urban Institute Cumulative Promotion Index
    - v. NGA On-time Graduation rate
  - d. What is a dropout
    - i. How it is calculated
4. Public comments
  - a. Representative from the Norfolk Foundation

b. Representative for Just for Kids

5. Closing Remarks from Mr. Rotherham and Dr. Ward